



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

February 8, 1965

Mr. Jesse Curry
Chief of Police
Dallas Police Department
Dallas, Texas

Dear Chief Curry:

The Department of Justice has recently been requested by the Office of the President to consider the advisability of modifying certain restrictions on the availability to members of the public of materials delivered by the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy to the National Archives.

Under the normal procedures of the National Archives, many of the materials delivered to it by the Commission would, in the absence of instructions to the contrary, be made available to persons requesting to examine them. However, certain exceptions would ordinarily apply to the limited classes of the Commission's materials. Because of "the nature of the Warren Commission's investigation and the desirability of the fullest possible disclosure of all the findings," as stated by the President's Office, it is these restrictions which we have been requested to evaluate.

The principal exception to the public availability rule applies to previously unpublished materials in the nature of investigatory reports. This exception may have application to some of the materials which the Dallas Police Department submitted to the President's Commission. In formulating any special procedures which may be appropriate,

we wish to consider your views as to whether the disclosure of any such papers would be detrimental to the effective operations of the Dallas Police Department.

I appreciate your assistance in considering this matter.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Chapman
Acting Attorney General

February 12, 1965

The Honorable Nicholas Katzenbach
Acting Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Sir: Your letter of February 8, 1965

It is our opinion that any evidence submitted
by this department to the Warren Commission
may be made available to the public.

I do not believe that the operations of the
Dallas Police Department would be jeopardized
by any person examining our reports.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Curry
Chief of Police

JEC:ES